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A NEW GECKO FROM HAITI, *ARISTELLIGER*
EXPECTATUS.

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The discovery of a new species of *Aristelliger* on Navassa Island by Major Chapman Grant¹ and the description of a related form from Great Inagua Island by Dr. Noble and Mr. Klingel² have prompted me to re-examine the rather scanty material of that genus from Haiti. In accordance with Dr. Noble's prediction that a related form might be expected to occur in Haiti, I have found that a small gecko, which I had assumed was the young of *Aristelliger lar*, in reality represents a new species, linked closely to the Navassa and Inagua species because of the similarity of their toe structure. I shall therefore call this new gecko

***Aristelliger expectatus*, new species.**

1928. *Aristelliger lar* (not of Cope) Cochran, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. 41, Mar. 16, 1928, p. 54.

Description of the type.—U. S. N. M. 75908, an adult male from Jacmel, Haiti, collected in 1928 by J. S. C. Boswell on a low palm tree. Rostral much broader than high, with a posterior median cleft extending forwards for one-half the height of the shield, in contact above with the supranasal and the single internasal; nostril rather large, touching the outer posterior border of the rostral, its lower rim widened and in contact with the first supralabial, posteriorly bordered by two postnasal scales, the upper the smaller; about seven upper and five lower labials to a point below the center of the eye, the few behind this point becoming smaller (the upper labials on both sides have suffered a slight injury); upper surfaces covered with granular scales which are smaller middorsally, larger on the flanks and on

¹"A new species of *Aristelliger* from Navassa" by Chapman Grant, Journ. Dept. Agr. Porto Rico, vol. 4, No. 4, Oct. 1931, pp. 399-400.

²"The reptiles of Great Inagua Island, British West Indies," by G. K. Noble and G. C. Klingel, Amer. Mus. Nov., No. 549, Aug. 11, 1932, pp. 4-11.

the snout, and largest on the tail where they merge into overlapping hexagonal scales arranged in symmetrical transverse rows; about 27 lateral scales and about 30 dorsal scales equal to the distance between tip of snout and center of eye; canthal scales not particularly enlarged; eye a little nearer to ear than to end of snout, its diameter not quite half the length of the snout; 5 or 6 superciliary scales on the eyelid, the last one projecting as a short palpebral spine above the eye; ear-opening irregularly oval, its greatest diameter about once and a half the height of the first supralabial, its distance from the eye equal to the distance between eye and nostril; temples very minutely granular; mental broad, triangular, considerably wider than the rostral, its labial margin almost three times as wide as the first infralabial; two pairs of chinshields, the inner ones in contact with each other behind the mental, the scales following these and bordering the infralabials small, rather abruptly merging into the minute granules which cover the entire throat; remainder of underside of body and legs covered with smooth, cycloid, imbricate scales; about 14 abdominal scales included in the distance between end of snout and center of eye; the scales on underside of thighs grading down to very small ones; no femoral pores; the scales beneath the tail large, rectangular, arranged in transverse rows, each one equivalent to two of the upper caudal rows in length and much wider than long; fingers and toes slightly but definitely webbed, all with long, angularly raised and clawed distal phalanges, those of the third and fourth fingers and the three outer toes compressed, those of the first, second and fifth fingers and the first and second toes with an enlarged pad-like scale nearly covering the side of the claw, the first finger and toe with an additional smaller pad-like scale on the other side of the claw; basal dilated portion with 11 single lamellae under the fourth toe and 9 under the fifth toe; tail cylindrical, distinctly compressed towards the reproduced tip.

Dimensions.—Head to posterior border of ear, 15 mm.; head and body, 51 mm.; tail (reproduced), 59 mm.

Color in alcohol.—Above drab gray; a seal brown stripe originating behind the nostril, continuing on the lores, passing well above the ear-opening and widening above the shoulder as an enlarged blotch; behind this blotch a fainter continuation of the lateral stripe which becomes very irregular posteriorly and fades out on the sides of the tail; six or seven very narrow dorsal bars between these lateral stripes, the anterior interrupted in the middle and ending as a forward-curving blotch on each side of the nape, the remaining bars somewhat similar in shape but paler; a faint irregular roundish marking on the occipital region; traces of wavy crossbars on the upper limb surfaces; upper and lower lips minutely spotted with pale dots; lower surfaces immaculate pale olive buff darkening slightly below the tail.

Paratypes.—M. C. Z. 25425, from Pte. à Raquette, Gonave Island, collected in 1927 by W. J. Eyerdam, is similar to the type in proportions and generally in coloration, although the pattern of dorsal crossbars is stronger than in the type specimen, and the entire body is darker in hue. The upper and lower labials are dark, and the lower surface of the body is heavily powdered with gray dots. This paratype has six upper and six lower labials on the right side of the head to a point beneath the center of the eye; on the

left side of the head there are seven upper and six lower labials. The chinshields in this specimen fail to meet behind the mental, being separated by a single small scale. The postnasals are much smaller and more irregular. There are about 16 ventral scales and 26 lateral and 28 dorsal granules in the distance between tip of snout and center of eye. M. C. Z. 13847, also from Gonave Island, collected in 1919 by G. M. Allen, is very pale in color and practically devoid of pattern except for a faint suggestion of the wide stripe along the side of the head and neck. It has six upper labials on both sides, six and five lower labials on right and left respectively; the chinshields fail to meet, being separated by one scale; the postnasals are small, numerous and regular, and there are about 13 ventral scales and 23 lateral and 26 dorsal granules in the distance between tip of snout and center of eye. A third paratype, M. C. Z. 13322 from Thomazeau, Haiti, collected in 1919 by G. M. Allen, is very similar to the type in coloration, except that in this paratype the dark bands on the limbs are somewhat more heavily accentuated. This individual has six upper and five lower labials on both sides of the head; the chinshields are in contact behind the mental; there are but two postnasals, and these are relatively large, followed by much smaller granules; there are about 13 ventral scales and 24 lateral and 28 dorsal granules in the distance between tip of snout and center of eye.

Relationships.—As I have already indicated, the new species is very close to the Navassa and Great Inagua species because of their similarity in the arrangement of the terminal phalanges of the digits. From *Aristelliger cochranæ* of Navassa the new species differs decidedly in color pattern, in having a somewhat longer snout, and in having larger granules on top of the snout and between the eyes as well as on the back. From the Great Inagua form, which Noble and Klingel named *Aristelligella barbouri*, the Haitian species differs in having more lamellæ under the toes, and apparently also in having a weaker color pattern.

These three species differ from *Aristelliger lar* of Hispaniola, *A. praeignis* of Jamaica and *A. irregularis* of Cozumel in having more of the digits with "friction pads" at their terminations.